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EFFECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION POLICIES ON THE MINERAL SECTOR (INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF AVAILABLE STUDIES BY CONCERNED ENTITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT OF EXPLORATION AND MINING, AND REVIEW OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGIES DEALING WITH PROCESSING OF MINING WASTES AND TAILINGS)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Neculai Pavlovschi (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations

Effects of environmental protection and conservation policies on the mineral sector (including consideration of available studies by concerned entities of the United Nations system on the impact on the environment of exploration and mining, and review of state-of-the-art technologies dealing with processing of mining wastes and tailings)

The Committee on Natural Resources,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1993/302 of 29 July 1993,

Concerned about the need to ensure that the sustainable development of mineral resources is a continuing objective of host countries in the development of those resources,

Noting the mechanisms to address the management of the environment through both regulatory and new approaches to management and training with respect to technical developments,

Further noting the need to achieve transfer of technology and accommodate innovation and development of clean technology in the mining industry,

1. Takes note with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the effects of changing environmental policy on the world mineral industry; 1/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare for the Committee on Natural Resources at its third session a report that examines key advances in the development and application of state-of-the-art technologies for minimizing environmental degradation caused by mining and processing mineral resources;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to include in that report information on reprocessing wastes and tailings and eliminating the negative ecological consequences of past activities of mineral enterprises.

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